31st January 1929] [The hon. the President]

Mr. T. M. Narayanaswami Pillai.
Diwan Bahadur B. Ramachandra Reddi.
Mr. J. Bheemayya.
„ D. Narayana Raju.
„ K. V. R. Swami.
„ B. Venkataratnam.
„ S. Venkayya.

"As the number of candidates exceed the number of vacancies, an election will take place by means of the single transferable vote under Regulation 11 (5) of the Regulations for the holding of elections by means of the single transferable vote. I fix 3 to 5 p.m. as the time for the holding of the elections. The counting of votes will commence at 5 p.m. to-day."

The ZAMINDAR OF GOLLAPALLI:—"According to the arrangement come I do not want to contest." 12 noon.

Mr. J. BHIMAYYA:—"I withdraw."

Mr. K. KOTI REDDI:—"There is no Diwan Bahadur Ramachandra Reddi here, Sir."

The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"It is a slip; it is so typed here. Election to the presidentship of a district board is the forerunner of a Diwan Bahadurship."

Mr. G. HARISARVOTTAMA RAO:—"May I know if this House is likely to sit beyond to-day?"

The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"It all depends upon the official work that remains unfinished."

Mr. G. HARISARVOTTAMA RAO:—"We would like to know, Sir."

The hon. Sir NORMAN MARJORIBANKS:—"After finishing the two items of official business that appear on the agenda we must know whether to sit to-morrow or not."

## IV

### A BILL TO AMEND THE MADRAS UNIVERSITY ACT, 1923.

The House then resumed discussion of the motion of the hon. the Chief Minister that the Madras University Amending Bill be passed into law.

Mr. G. HARISARVOTTAMA RAO:—"Mr. President, Sir, I do not want to take much more of the time of this House. I merely desire to make a reference to only one point. The hon. the Minister for Education is highly mistaken if he thinks that by rushing through this piece of legislation at this stage he would be adding to the glory of his legislative achievement. It is always much more useful that the Minister came before the House with definitely settled views than with Bills that have had to be dealt with amendments of a very numerous character at the latest stage. This Bill having undergone such a modification as to necessitate almost a re-drafting after the second reading stage, I feel, Sir, that it is not right that we should pass this piece of legislation at this moment. I therefore feel no hesitation in opposing the motion for this Bill being passed into law."

[31st January 1929

*Mr. S. SATYAMURTI:—"Mr. President, Sir, perhaps hon. Members have forgotton that, before the hon. Minister thought of introducing a Bill, I introduced a Bill to amend the Madras University Act. Afterwards owing to a change in Congress policy I gave up prosecuting the further stages of the Bill. But the Select Committee had considered both the Bills and the resultant amending Bill embodied such of the amendments of my as well as the Chief Minister's Bill which commended themselves to the Select Committee in the first instance and later on in this House. There is no doubt whatever that almost from the time the Act was made, there was need felt by the authorities of the university and by others having anything to do with it for making certain changes in the wording of the Act. On the whole I think that defects, both of language and of a technical character which interfered with the smooth and efficient working of the various university bodies, have now been removed. I am grateful that 'Oriental College' has now been defined and given a special place in the scheme of university authorities. It is but right and proper that this Indian University should give due prominence to colleges engaged in Indian studies which are here called by the word 'Oriental'. Both yesterday and at earlier stages, Mr. President, a great deal of genuine feeling has been exhibited here on the floor of this House especially on this side that the Madras University should devote more and more attention to Indian subjects of study and particularly to Indian systems of medicine. I think the Opposition may well congratulate itself that in spite of the serried ranks behind the hon. Minister they went on modifying amendment after amendment and pressed on him to accept the need for the Madras University to do its best for Indian systems of medicine. But I would assure my hon. Friends that their persistent fight for the recognition of the Indian systems of medicine will not be lost sight of by the university authorities. There is nothing in the Act which prevents the university from constituting a faculty of Indian medicine or doing anything it considers proper and necessary for the purpose of recognizing and developing Indian systems of medicine and other indigenous sciences. To the extent to which a single individual can, I propose to place before my colleagues the strong feeling of this House and see to the extent to which I can that we do our best by the Indian systems of studies, particularly indigenous medicine.

"A new clause has been added defining the powers of the university. It was perhaps necessary to put it in so as to remove any possible doubts as to the exact powers of the university as a corporate body apart from the powers of the Senate and the Academic Council. Moreover, a definite gain has been achieved in that by sub-section 17 the university has been authorized to institute a permanent fund for the maintenance of a publication bureau, employment bureau, students' unions, university extension boards and university clubs. I earnestly trust that this will not be a mere paper recognition of this important department of university work. A publication bureau is very important and already the university is doing something but is handicapped for want of funds. But if ever we are to meet adequately the enormous ignorance and illiteracy prevalent in this country, I think the universities must do their best to spread knowledge by means of publication, especially in the Indian language. I attach more importance, Mr. President, to the establishment of an employment bureau. I have often heard cheap criticism that Indian University graduates seek employment and that they do not seek education for its own sake, and it is no job of the university to find employment for its graduates. I do not agree with it at all. I believe

31st January 1929] [Mr. S. Satyamurti]

that the employment in honourable and useful occupation of its alumni should be one of the first cares of any University which takes interest in its alumni, and I think that the Madras university owes it to itself and to its students to bestow some attention upon this and see to it that the products that they turn out are not left to drift for themselves in the wide world and that the Alma mater shows some interest in their future career. Students unions, university extension boards, university clubs and other important activities, are also provided for.

"The other significant feature of this Bill, Mr. President, is the abolition of the Council of Affiliated Colleges. I earnestly appeal to my mufassal friends not to take a too tragic view of this abolition. Affiliated Colleges have lost nothing on the whole by their modified position under this Bill. They have perhaps lost a body which was more ornamental rather than useful or active. As a compensation for that, if I may use that phrase, they have been given increased representation on the Academic Council, which is the supreme academic body of the university. I think their representation has been nearly doubled on that body and I hope they will make themselves felt as effectively as they have been doing, if not more. Besides that, the representation of the Mufassal Colleges on the Syndicate remains intact, in spite of the abolition of the Council of Affiliated Colleges. Three representatives of the mufassal colleges will be elected by the Academic Council to the Syndicate. I therefore think they have no reason to regret the abolition of the Council of Affiliated Colleges.

"On the whole the position of the Senate remains more or less what it was although there have been changes here and there. One important change, Sir, is that the vexed question of members of certain bodies being elected in their capacity as such members to university bodies ceasing to be members of the original bodies and yet not ceasing to be members of the bodies of the university to which they were elected as members, has been set at rest by elaborate provision in this Bill. I am glad, Mr. President, that the definition of university centres has been retained and more than that the Senate has been given the power to recommend to the local Government the recognition of any local area as a 'university centre.' In section 17, Sir, sub-clause 24, it is provided that the Senate may recommend to the local Government the recognition of any local area as a university centre. I attach great importance to it. A place like Trichinopoly, for example, with its three colleges doing high class work and a large number of high schools deserves a little more recognition at the hands of the university. Let us not forget that one of the most fruitful sources of the revenues of the University of Madras is what is known as the fee income, that is fees which candidates pay for university examinations. Judged from that standard I believe Trichinopoly comes only next to Madras in the amount of revenue it contributes by means of candidates fees for university examinations. I feel something ought to be done by recognizing Trichinopoly as a university centre by opening, if possible, a university library, a university club and such other facilities as will make the students of these colleges realize that they are not merely paying fees for the university but they get something in return from the university by means of university facilities.

"As far as the question of examinership is concerned, there has been a great deal of heart-burning in the past by the Act permitting the Academic Council and the Council of Affiliated Colleges to recommend the names of eligible 12-15 p.m.

teachers for examinerships. Now the power has been removed from the Academic Council and vested in the Boards of Studies. I hope that with this change the Boards of Studies will make suitable recommendations and the Syndicate will more and more practically accept them, and that the appointments of examiners will no longer be influenced by considerations alien to the needs of the examinations or the qualifications of examiners. There has been some increase also in the strength of the Academic Council, and I am glad that the Academic Council which, I believe, is the finest creation of the earlier Acts, is growing stronger and its position is being recognized in this Bill. I only wish, Mr. President, that it had been possible for us to provide for an optional honorary vice-chancellor, but that is not yet to be. I hope that the time will come when it will be possible for us to realize that there may be men who by their attainments, by their services to education, and by their past connexion with the university, may be amply qualified to be vice-chancellors and yet may not agree to be paid vice-chancellors.

"So far as this vexed question of Madras versus mufassal is concerned, I believe, no longer will the desire for a new university, namely, the Tamil University, hamper the smooth progress of the Madras University. I do not know if all hon. Members have read—I am sure several of them have read—the speech of the Governor in reply to the deputation that waited on him at Trichinopoly, the other day when he said—I now believe with the concurrence of the Minister after the answer he gave me yesterday in regard to the answers of Governors to such deputations—that now that funds have been found for the Annamalai University, there is no immediate prospect of the Government finding funds for a Tamil University. As such, therefore, I believe, Mr. President, that the Madras University will have to continue for some time, both as a teaching and as an affiliating university. From the ideal point of view, it is by no means satisfactory. I am one of those who believe that if you want a teaching and a residential university you must have it in its proper form, as for example in Chidambaram, before we can expect any good results from it. The fact that Madras is both a teaching and an affiliating university is due to historical causes. Indeed it has been an affiliating university from its very inception and it is only slowly becoming a teaching university. That has got to continue and we must see to it that no inconsistency arises which may hamper its functions. I am one of those who believe that all honours and post-graduate work should be concentrated in Madras hereafter at least, if possible, just as we have provided in the case of the Andhra University that all higher and post-graduate work should be concentrated at Vizagapatam. Whatever history may impose upon us by way of obligation in recognizing the existing colleges, which we cannot destroy or modify, I do trust that the university policy in the future, in Madras also, will be to carry out what we have resolved, namely, that all higher and post-graduate, research and other such work shall be concentrated in Madras. So far as the future is concerned, my hon. Friends who are interested in the Andhra University will agree with me that those of us who are supposed to be Tamilians and therefore cannot enter into the spirit of the Andhra University, propose to do by the Madras University exactly what we have done by the Andhra University. We do not want any centres. My hon. Friend from East Godavari interrupted me. The word 'centre' is used in the Madras University Act in a sense entirely different from the sense in which it is used in the Andhra University Act. Therefore, there is no

question of more centres or fewer centres. I believe that first-grade colleges may be anywhere and everywhere, so long as you have got an affiliating university only. I still believe, as I believed in the case of the Andhra University, that higher research work should be concentrated in one and only one place.

"Sir, differences of opinion are growing up as regards the place of the universities in modern life. What modern democracy naturally insists is the need for mass education, for elementary education, as it is called. I yield to none in my desire to see my country universally educated at least up to the elementary education stage, and at as early a date as possible. At the same time, I believe, that even for the spread of sound elementary education you want sound and well-financed universities which will send forth teachers who will be the centres of light and leading, from whom will radiate that knowledge which will help this country to come by her own. I trust, Sir, that the Madras University may count upon the increasing support of this Council in future when it starts its work under the provisions of this amending Bill."

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—"Mr President, I crave your indulgence and that of the House for a few minutes only. As it is we have taken almost a whole day with regard to this Bill. Hon. Members opposite talk of this legislation being done in a hasty manner, but they have to remember that this Bill was introduced as long ago as August 1927 and it has taken nearly eighteen months for even moving that this measure be passed into law. I am sure they will admit that there has been no hastening in any manner whatever. Of course, I know there has been a certain amount of feeling with regard to the drafting of the amendments that were proposed at the third reading stage, but the way in which we carried amendments in the second reading made it incumbent that such amendments should be introduced in the third reading stage in order to bring the Bill into a proper order. That is my only excuse for having such a number of drafting amendments and for this I am obliged to the Law (Drafting) Under Secretary, Mr Govindan Nayar, to whom I must pay my thanks in this House for the able way in which he drafted these amendments, considering time that was available to him. I must also, in this connexion, thank Mr. Statham who was largely responsible for the drafting of the Bill as it was introduced into this Council and also Dr. Meston, Mr. Smith and Mr. Corley for the help they have given in all stages of this Bill. The two underlying principles of the Bill, as it was introduced, were whether the number of members to the Senate and the other bodies could not be reduced. That was not found possible because of the various conflicting elements that wanted representation on the Senate. The second point, as I explained already, was that we should get rid of the Council of Affiliated Colleges. Mr. Saldanha said that I wanted injure to the mufassal colleges. I can tell him that was far from my mind. If he had read the Statement of Objects and Reasons he might not have made that statement, but I am getting accustomed to such statements from Mr. Saldanha and he makes such statements without any regard to the book at all. The other point which my hon. Friend, the Member for the University, has referred to is that certain conflicts had arisen in the matter of a jurisdiction between the various bodies and that had to be remedied. My hon. Friend, the Member for the University, referred to his Bill and I admit that Bill also was useful to the Select Committee in some points, and as he himself admitted,

[Dr. P. Subbarayan] [31st January 1929

some of his amendments have also been incorporated into this Bill. But, the main point under consideration was that there were difficulties in this working of this Act and that it had to be corrected, so that there will not be conflicts between authorities and authorities and that has been done by this Bill. That was the main purpose of my Bill. No doubt, the hon. Member for the University also referred to some of the points which arose as to the conflict between the various authorities, but I am sure he will himself admit that the Bill introduced by the Government dealt with this more elaborately than his did. I am obliged to the Members of this Council for the help they have given in the passing of this legislation. I know there have been heated debates in the matter especially of introducing some amendments which they thought were dear to their hearts. Far be it from me to say that I am opposed to any Indian system of education or culture. What I felt was that as the Act stood, it was unnecessary for such amendments, but as the hon. Member for the University has stated, the way in which discussion has taken place on this Bill will bring home to the authorities of the university the feeling in the Legislative Council with regard to the teaching of Indian History and Indian Systems of Medicine, which I am sure, the university authorities, experienced as they are with public opinion in this country, will try and do their best to incorporate into the system of education which they are imparting to-day. I know hon. Members think that the Ministry has not done enough in the way of legislation, but if they had sat for three days as they have done with regard to these two University Bills, I am sure hon. Members will realize the difficulties of a Member of Government with regard to the passing of legislation. I do not complain about the Opposition in the way in which they practiced obstruction, because it is a matter for them, and I think it is also one of the well-understood Parliament tary principles by which if they want to obstruct they have a right to do so. I have no complaint to make in that connexion.

" Mr. President, I also wish to express my thanks to you, Sir, personally for the difficulty you had in putting the various amendments in regard to this measure in the Council."

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" I hope the hon. Minister will take care not to give the same trouble in future Bills."

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—" That is why I am thanking you so that if I give some trouble you may not think it too much of a trouble. With these few words, I move that this Bill be passed into law."

The hon. Mr. M. R. SETURATNAM AYYAR :—" I second it, Sir."

The motion was put to the House and carried and the Bill was passed into law.

## V

### THE MADRAS SERVICES COMMISSION BILL, 1929.

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" I think it will be more convenient to the House to have the motion split up into three parts : one is that the Bill be referred to a Select Committee. Then there is another motion by Mr. Karant and C. S. Govindaraja Mudaliyar to suspend the standing order. This will be taken as the second part, whether the standing order is to be suspended or not. When once the suspension of the standing order or retention of it is agreed to, the names of the members of the Select Committee may be taken up. So we shall have to put three distinct propositions."